(b) The Central Government has issued the following guidelines in the context of holding peace talks:—

(i) If in its assessment, a state finds the conditions conducive, it may hold peace talks with the nexal groups.

(ii) During the period of peace dialogue, the State would continue to perform its legal duties and step up presence of the State Government machinery in the affected areas.

(iii) The States should consult each other, pursue a coordinated approach and conduct peace dialogue in a manner that it does not impact the other States adversely.

(iv) The States should modernize their police forces and improve intelligence gathering and sharing mechanisms to take sustained and effective police action, wherever the possibility of a peace dialogue does not exist.

Crime reports on TV channels

†854. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TV channels are telecasting crime reports;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any action against the culprits shown in the crime reports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKARAO GAVIT): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been observed that many TV channels are showing crime based programmes.

(b) to (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the constitution of India. Detection, registration, investigation, prosecution and prevention of crimes are primarily the responsibilities of the State Governments. However, the Union Government has, from time to time, been advising the State Government to improve the criminal justice system and in particular to take effective measures for prevention of crimes against vulnerable sections of the society, such as, women, children, members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and old persons.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.